

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 FLOREN 00090 170906Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /073 W  
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FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1935

UNCLAS FLORENCE 0090

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJECT: TUSCAN PCI PREPARING FOR ELECTIONS?

REF: FLORENCE 0067

1. FLORENCE NEWSPAPER "LA NAZIONE" CARRIES 6-COLUMN ARTICLE BY RESPECTED JOURNALIST PIERO PAOLI ABOUT TUSCAN PCI ACTIVITY ENTITLED 'PCI TOUGH LINE WAS BORN IN TUSCANY'. THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES THE ALLEGED ROLE PLAYED BY TUSCAN COMMUNISTS DURING DECEMBER 7, 1977 MEETING OF THE PARTY'S NATIONAL DIRECTORATE WHICH DENOUNCED THE JULY AGREEMENT AND PROPOSED THE FORMATION OF AN EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT IN ITALY. IT ALSO DESCRIBES THE INTERNAL SITUATION OF THE PARTY IN TUSCANY, ACCORDING TO PCI REGIONAL SECRETARY PASQUINI, FLORENCE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY VENTURA AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT BARTOLINI.

2. PAOLI SAYS THAT TUSCAN PCI LEADERS WERE THE FIRST TO BRING THE ATTENTION OF THE PARTY'S NATIONAL OFFICIALS OF THE DISAFFECTION OF THE PARTY BASE OVER THE JULY AGREEMENT AND QUOTES VENTURA AS SAYING QUOTE ONE COULD NOTICE THAT THE BASE CONSIDERED THE AGREEMENT INADEQUATE TO THE COUNTRY'S NEEDS UNQUOTE. VENTURA ALSO SAID THAT THIS DISAFFECTION CAUSED A DECREASE IN PCI MEMBERSHIP, WHICH AT THE END OF NOVEMBER 1977  
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HAD 5,000 LESS MEMBERS IN TUSCANY THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. AT THE END OF JANUARY 1978, HOWEVER, AFTER TWO MONTHS OF STRONGER CRITICISM OF THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT, PCI MEMBERSHIP IN TUSCANY AGAIN EQUALLED THAT OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

3. PAOLI ALSO DESCRIBES THE PRESENT SITUATION OF THE PCI IN

TUSCANY AS ONE OF RENEWED WILLINGNESS AND "GUSTO" FOR THE POLITICAL FIGHT AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. HE SAYS THOUGH, THAT ONE COULD NOT FIND ONE PCI OFFICIAL WHO WOULD ADMIT IT PUBLICLY SINCE THIS MEANT TO IGNORE THE POLICY OF "HISTORICAL COMPROMISE" SOUGHT BY THE COMMUNISTS FOR THE THE LAST FIVE YEARS. ON THIS SUBJECT, REGIONAL SECRETARY PASQUINI REPORTEDLY STATED THAT QUOTE WE FIGHT AGAINST EARLY ELECTIONS TODAY, AND BELIEVE THAT THERE IS ROOM FOR A SOLUTION OF THE CRISIS. BUT THE PCI .....IF SOMEONE IMPOSES EARLY ELECTIONS, WILL GIVE THE ORDER FOR A GENERAL MOBILIZATION OF THE PARTY. AND IN THE PRESENT CONDITIONS, WE BELIEVE WE WILL OBTAIN A POSITIVE RESULT UNQUOTE.

4. ARTICLE ENDS SAYING THAT, IN SUM, COMMUNISTS IN TUSCANY ARE ONCE AGAIN READY.  
GORDON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PARTY LINE, ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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